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Among the innumerable phases of the great calamity which has fallen upon our country and the world in the tragic death of President McKinley, the loss of a generous friend of science is by no means the least. The prosperity of the scientific bureaus under his administration has been as marked in improved organization and in method as in extension and in generous patronage, and the establishment of a new bureau in the interest of scientific and commercial precision is a laudable feature of special moment.